DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 102 163 SP 008 949

AUTHOR Riggs, Bob
TITLE Schools of Education in a Period of Declining and Changing Student Interest.
PUB DATE 74
NOTE 10p.

EDRS PRICE MF-$0.76 HC-$1.58 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS Education Majors; *Enrollment Rate; *Schools of Education; Student Enrollment; Teacher Education; *Teacher Supply and Demand

ABSTRACT

A decline in the college-going rate for high school graduates, and the shrinking public school population with its resultant decline in the demand for new teachers, have both contributed to drops in enrollment which many schools of education are experiencing. There are ways, however, by which schools of education can avoid disastrous results. These include the following: (a) eliminate nonproductive programs and courses, (b) retrain faculty in areas of declining interest for employment in growth or stable fields, (c) offer elective courses which appeal to noneducation majors, (d) plan new programs based on existing faculty and physical resources, (e) recruit faculty with flexible, broad-based academic preparation, (f) develop cooperative programs with other academic departments, (g) lobby for more favorable and equitable funding, (h) consolidate and integrate training programs among institutions producing a small percentage of teachers, and (i) prepare students for two or more career options. (PB)

ED102163

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION
THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN REPRODUCED EXACTLY AS RECEIVED FROM THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION ORIGINATING IT. POINTS OF VIEW OR OPINIONS STATED DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT OFFICIAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION POSITION OR POLICY

Bob Rice
Nov. 1974

HIGHER EDUCATION IN A PERIOD OF DECLINING AND CHANGING STUDENT INTEREST

Two major factors--both demographic--have contributed to the current drops in enrollment which many schools of education are experiencing. First, the college going rate for high school graduates has declined from a 1969 high of 63 per cent to a 1973 level of less than 55 per cent.[1] This decline has produced overall enrollment drops in many of the nation's four-year institutions. For example, in the fall of 1974, 34 per cent of these institutions had decreases in full-time enrollment, 27 per cent had part-time enrollment decreases, and 11 per cent had reductions in freshman enrollment.[2]

A second factor is the shrinking public school population and the resultant decline in the demand for new teachers. Student enrollment in public and non-public elementary schools has been declining since 1970 and is expected to continue to do so throughout the 1980's. In fact, even all school age population (those between 5 and 17, inclusively) is expected to decline over the next 10 to 15 years. By 1987, the 5 to 17 population is expected to be

---

[1]Ellen Green, editor, A Fact Book on Higher Education, American Council on Higher Education, 1974, p. 7.

[2]"Enrollment Rose 4 Pct. this Fall, Study Indicates," The Chronicle, November 11, 1974, p. 2.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]